

Angel Cabrera's jacket fits

pg 10



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HALIFAX • N.S.

APRIL 13, 2009

metronews.ca

Oprah calls FBI over scam

pg 14



AC/DC will shake Moncton

CONCERT It's official. AC/DC is coming to Moncton to play at the Magnetic Hill Concert site on Thursday, Aug. 6.

The legendary Australian rockers are coming as part of their Black Ice World Tour, which kicked off last October and has received rave reviews.

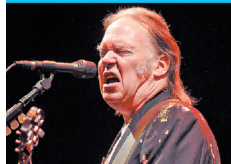
Tickets go on sale Friday at 10 a.m. They are available online at tickets.moncton.ca or by calling 1-888-720-5600. They are also available at all Needs convenience store locations across Atlantic Canada.

General admission tickets are \$99.50, plus taxes and service charges.

There is also limited grandstand seating available at \$219.50, plus taxes and service charges.

METRO HALIFAX

Local pg 3



Neil Young rocks out

Entertainment pg 12

Corner Gas runs dry

World pg 6

Captain held by pirates rescued



Mia, a one-year-old Akita Pyrenees cross, gets a close-up look at the Easter Bunny at the first annual Easter B'Egg Hunt at Point Pleasant Park yesterday. Around 100 dogs searched for treats during the fundraiser for the Bide Awhile Shelter.

Holiday It's Easter, doggonit

Virtually there

Digital communication next best thing for parents

Michael Gough has reached across cyberspace to read his daughter Saige bedtime stories and teach her the ABCs. He has even watched her open Christmas presents from 1,000 miles away.

In the real world of divorce, Gough is a pioneer of what's called "virtual visitation" — electronic communication that is the next best thing to actually being there for non-custodial parents.

"It's meant to supplement, not replace, face-to-face visits," says Gough, who turned to technology when his ex-wife decided to move from Utah to Wisconsin with their then four-year-old daughter after the couple's 2002 divorce.

"It's meant to supplement, not replace, face-to-face visits."

Michael Gough, parent

Shortly after the move, Gough showed up in court schlepping two laptops with high-speed Internet connections. It took \$10,000 in lawyers' fees and a relatively brief demonstration to convince a family court judge the long-distance dad should be entitled to cyberspace contact with his daughter, in addition to his face-to-face visits.

In 2004, Utah became the first state to make virtual visitation part of divorce legislation.

Similar laws have since been passed in Wisconsin,

Florida and Texas.

It's still a relatively unknown concept in Canada, although Gough hopes to work with fathers' rights groups to get similar access legislation here.

"It makes children feel that we're there, even though we can't be," says Gough, a computer security specialist who relied largely on a webcam to communicate with his daughter before eventually relocating to Wisconsin as well.

Two years ago, Gough helped establish the first free connection site for di-

vorced parents, in DuPage County, Ill.

To help other parents separated from their kids by divorce, Gough also created a website and virtual visitation handbook, at internetvisitation.org.

Virtual visitation remains controversial, says Chicago-based family law lawyer and fathers' rights advocate Jeffery Leving. The concerns, he says, include fears it will be used in court to justify a move away by custodial parents, to reduce face-to-face access time for the non-custodial parents and even be used as an excuse to cut child support payments, which are based at least in part on the amount of time each parent spends with a child.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Legendary N.S. referee blows career whistle

NHL After three decades and 1,719 games, Dartmouth's Don Koharski has retired from refereeing in the National Hockey League.

Koharski's last game was Thursday night, a contest between the host Tampa Bay Lightning and Washington Capitals.

Koharski now lives with his family in Dade City, Fla.

Koharski, 53, started officiating at the age of 18 in the World Hockey Association.

In 1977 he broke into the NHL as a linesman.

In 1981 he refereed his first NHL game and never looked back.

He would go on to work 262 playoff games, including 11 Stanley Cup finals, as well as the 1987 and 1991 Canada Cup competitions and the 2004 World Cup.

He also worked the 1992 and 2000 all-star games.

Aside from his long and prestigious career, Koharski is remembered for his famous argument with New Jersey Devils coach Jim Schoenfeld during the 1988 playoffs.

Schoenfeld confronted Koharski outside the dressing room after a game between New Jersey and Boston.

The two bumped into each other, with Koharski believing he was pushed. Harsh words were then exchanged.

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Halifax Regional Police and the RCMP Integrated Traffic Unit are notifying the public that a number of daytime checkpoints will be conducted throughout the month of April. The purpose of these checkpoints is cellphone enforcement and vehicle safety compliance. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Local



Rapper k-os coming to town

Canadian music star k-os, left, is returning to Halifax for a free show at the Cunard Centre on Saturday, May 16, at 9 p.m. The all-ages show is first-come, first serve, and will ask for "karma" donations, which gets you a free k-os CD titled *Yes! It's Yours*, an album mixed entirely by his fans.

METRO HALIFAX

HRP making history

Police name first black and first female superintendents

JON TATTIRIE
for Metro Halifax

Halifax Regional Police broke two glass ceilings last week, as its class of four new superintendents included the force's first black and first female commissioned officer.

Don MacLean, Colleen Kelly, Robin McNeil and Jim Perrin were promoted Thursday in a packed ceremony at Halifax City Hall.

MacLean, who is black, grew up on Maynard Street, in the shadow of the police headquarters on Gottingen Street, but he never imagined himself inside the



Don MacLean, Halifax Regional Police's first black commissioned officer.

blue uniform. He said some people are born wanting to be cops and will make it happen, but his focus is on reaching out to people who don't see policing in their

future.

"They can be just as valuable as police officers and we have a duty to go out and find those people. Someone went out and found me," he said. "And here I am today, superintendent 16 years later."

He acknowledged his promotion had a wider importance for the relationship between the police force and black people.

"It's a personal achievement that's significant," he said. "It's not just me, it's recognizing those people that came before, that maybe this wasn't a realistic opportunity for them. Moving forward, there are

people that will come behind me and recognize that it can be done. That's pretty powerful stuff."

Kelly became the first female police superintendent in the same week that Josee Kurtz became the first woman to take command of a Canadian war ship.

"Today marks a tremendous day in the history of Halifax Regional Police and I'm proud to be (part of it)," said Kelly, a 20-year veteran. She's seen a steady rise in female officers in the force's ranks. "You're seeing more females within policing. It's probably going to be less a novelty now, which is nice to see."

Cops warn about dirty drug needles

NEW GLASGOW About 30 needles that police say were clearly used for drugs were found in an Eastside New Glasgow neighbourhood last Thursday.

Const. Ken MacDonald said this is the largest quantity of needles that have been discovered so far this year.

"This is the time of year when needles show up as the snow melts, but usually it's only one or two here and there," MacDonald said.

"We've had calls with people finding them on the streets and in playgrounds."

The needles were discovered by a child in a residential neighbourhood, he said, and a parent called the police about them.

That's exactly the right thing to do in this type of situation, MacDonald said.

"Parents really need to talk to their kids and tell them not to touch needles, other drug paraphernalia or empty pill bottles," he said. "They shouldn't be picking them up, they should be going home and telling their parents about them."

NEW GLASGOW NEWS

Teen sought in weekend robbery

CRIME The meeting of two groups near Lexington Avenue and Breeze Drive ended in a robbery Friday evening.

The victim was walking with friends when he ran into a group of six males. One person pushed the victim down and then took a cellphone out of his pocket. The victim was not hurt. The suspect is described as a white male, 16 to 19 years old, six-foot-tall and 165 pounds, wearing a black hoodie.

METRO HALIFAX

Local designer praised

JON TATTIRIE
for Metro Halifax

FASHION A Halifax designer brought her latest fashions home last week ahead of her Toronto debut later this month.

Katrina Tuttle was bubbling with excitement after the Thursday night show. "We're really happy with how the show went out," the 20-year-old said. "I wanted pieces that kept that fun, trendy influence, but still had a really classic feel."

The dresses got shorter and Tuttle increased her focus on details for the Page and Strange Gallery show.

"If I had a low back, I kept the front cut a little higher to keep a little wonder in pieces," she said.

Tuttle said Haligonians want high-end fashion, but it can take a year for styles to migrate east. "You have to be more innovative and find a fusion between what's going to be wearable and a way to make that high-end runway feel."

Tuttle is making her Toronto debut on April 21 at the Alternative Fashion Week.

Nadine LaRoche, Fashion Magazine's Halifax reporter, was impressed.

"It was lovely," she said. "It was in its infancy when we saw it last time. Now it's jumped over the awkward years and is sitting in a



A model works the runway during last week's fashion show by Halifax designer Katrina Tuttle.

grown-up place."

LaRoche said Tuttle's work last season was full of incredible designs, but lacked a consistent vision.

"They were a whole bunch of really great pieces, but they didn't exist as a collection. This one had a

lot of running themes flowing through it in terms of the fabrics and little details like ruffles and pleats."

LaRoche praised Tuttle for designing stylish pieces that look great and are literally prêt-à-porter — ready to wear.

Three arrests made in prostitution crackdown

VICE The Halifax Regional Police-RCMP integrated vice unit made three arrests Wednesday evening with the help of some undercover officers.

A 46-year-old Dartmouth man, arrested on Windmill Road in Dartmouth, and a 59-year-old Antigonish man, arrested on Agricola Street in Halifax, are both charged with propositioning an under-

cover female officer for sex.

A 28-year-old female was also arrested during the operation for allegedly soliciting a male officer.

All three are scheduled to appear in court at a later date to face the charges. Halifax Regional Police and the RCMP say they will continue to target street-level prostitution in HRM.

METRO HALIFAX

Fire destroys family's home

DEVASTATED A family of five has been left devastated after a fire ripped through their home early Saturday morning, destroying nearly everything they own.

At about 12:45 a.m., the shrill sound of smoke detectors jolted Jerry Amirault, his wife, Rhonda Mingo, and three children from their beds in the two-storey house on the Upper River John Road near Tata-magouche.

"I woke up smelling

"I woke up smelling smoke and the smoke detectors were going off..."

Jerry Amirault

smoke and the smoke detectors were going off so we got everybody out of the house," Amirault said.

No one was injured in the blaze, which reduced the house to ashes and melted, twisted debris.

TRURO DAILY NEWS

metronews.ca

What's online today.

Blogs It's Called Football speaks to Whitecaps keeper Jay Nolly and USL-1 writer Simon Fudge for a USL-1 season preview.

Immigration Guidy Mamm on how Canada's new citizenship law reflects current social values at metronews.ca/immigration

Video Investors get a boost from the continued market rebound at metronews.ca/canada



Lotteries

Friday, April 10

Lotto Super 7: 11, 14, 20, 22, 30, 42 & 43. Bonus 38.

Saturday, April 11

Lotto 6/49: 5, 6, 7, 11, 17 & 34. Bonus 48.

These results are not official.

News in brief

ACCIDENT A driver has been charged with fleeing the scene of an accident early Saturday. At 1:46 a.m. there was a single vehicle accident near Exit 12A of

Highway 118. The vehicle had extensive damage. The driver was located a couple hours later and will face charges.

METRO HALIFAX

Bedford, Birch Cove urban design workshops

Two HRM urban design workshops are taking place this week. On Wednesday, the Bedford Waterfront Urban Design Study Workshop is being held at the Basinview school at 7 p.m. On Thursday, the Birch Cove Urban Design Study Workshop takes place at Ecole Beaubassin at 7 p.m. **METRO HALIFAX**

Rocker forever Young

Legend leaves it all on stage, in second visit in six months

JON TATTRE
for Metro Halifax

With the crowd roaring like a jet plane and the smell of marijuana drifting up to the rafters of the Halifax Metro Centre, the old man stepped on stage and ripped into a wild version of *When You Dance I Can Really Love*.

Canadian rock legend Neil Young, in Halifax on Friday for the second time in six months, played songs he wrote 30 years ago like they just came to him.

A piano-pounding stomp through *Are You Ready For The Country* kept the show flying. Young, sporting a paint-spattered sports coat, rarely spoke to the near-capacity crowd and sang with his eyes pinched shut.

At other shows, it might come across as a detached singer bored with another night on tour, mindless of the crowd, but with Young, as always, he sang everything he needed to say.

The 63-year-old broke the spell a few times, notably after his band leapt into one song as he dove into another. He turned to the musicians and asked, "What do you want to do?" in feigned exasperation.

"This is like rehearsals for retirement, only we don't want to get it down," he added. "We always don't want to be ready for that."



Neil Young opens his show with *When You Dance I Can Really Love* from his 1970 album *After the Goldrush* at the Metro Centre on Friday night.

The stage decked out like a museum of instruments, Young headed to the organ at the back for a slow trip through *Oh Mother Earth*, accompanied by lighters swaying in the audience.

Near the summit of the

show, Young worked up a mesmerizing version of *Change Your Mind*, from the album *Sleeps With Angels*. That album was recorded after the death of Kurt Cobain, who quoted "it's better to burn out

than to fade away" from Young's *Hey Hey, My My* in his suicide note. *Change Your Mind* sounds like a too-late reply.

Deep into his life, Young is still full of passion and intensity — and still burning.

Couple find dead dog 'tossed out like garbage'

ANIMALS Janet Fraser and her husband, Bruce, were walking along their usual route on Hinchey Avenue in New Waterford Friday afternoon when they encountered something wrapped up in a dark, blue blanket in the ditch.

"We thought it was a stuffed toy and then (Bruce) said 'oh, I'm not touching that,'" Fraser said. "The quilt was that big. Bruce said 'oh my God, is that a person?'"

Kenny Manning, Cape Breton SPCA

is that a person?"

A young German Shepherd dog lay wrapped in a taped up blanket along the isolated road. There are no homes in the area where the animal was found — a stretch of road that Fraser said has plenty of problems with dumping both garbage and dead pets.

Fraser described the animal as being "tossed out like garbage."

"I don't know how they get here," she said. "There have been small kittens (too), so I would say they're being dumped."

An examination of the dog Saturday by Kenny

Manning, animal control officer with the Cape Breton SPCA, showed no signs of abuse. Medical tape wrapped around the dog's right paw held a cotton swab on a shaved section where an injection was given to the animal, something Manning believed was done professionally at a veterinarian's office.

Manning said he planned on calling local veterinarian

offices today to see if anyone recently had that type of dog brought in for euthanization. If that is indeed the case, it wouldn't result in an animal cruelty case because the animal was put down humanely.

It would then become a municipal dumping issue. Disposing of a dead animal should be done in the correct manner, said Manning.

"That dog may be young, but it's still part of a family. Just to disregard it on the side of the road because of a financial burden or whatever, it's not right," he said.

CAPE BRETON POST

Nurses set to mentor colleagues

PROJECT Senior nurses will now spend more time training their younger colleagues, in a plan to coax more nurses to stay in Nova Scotia.

About \$2.6 million will be pumped into the plan, a partnership between the province, the Nova Scotia Nurses' Union, Health Canada and the Canadian Federation of Nurses.

The plan involves testing

Graduate plan

- The project will come into effect for the graduating classes of June and December 2009 and June 2010.

an 80-20 staffing model. Participating late-career nurses will spend 80 per cent of their time in direct patient care, with 20 per cent dedicated to professional devel-

opment and mentoring new graduates.

The Nova Scotia project is part of a larger, national strategy called *Research to Action: Applied Workplace Solutions for Nurses*. The Canadian Federation of Nurses Unions got a \$4.2-million federal grant to work with partners on out-of-the-box improvements to the workplace environment.

METRO HALIFAX

Production resumes on Sable project

PLATFORM Production is back underway on a Sable gas project after a fire last week.

The Thebaud Compression Platform, located 362 kilometres off the east coast of Nova Scotia and operated by ExxonMobil, was shut down Tuesday morning when a small electrical fire broke out.

The platform is unmanned, but staff from a

connected platform responded to put out the fire. There were no injuries and minimal damage.

Throughout the week ExxonMobil worked on repairing the equipment. The Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Board (CNSOPB), the government agency responsible for regulating petroleum activities on Nova Scotia's offshore, approved the com-

pany's repair and pre-start test programs.

ExxonMobil completed the programs and production on the platform resumed yesterday.

The board also ruled the fire caused "no immediate health, safety, environmental or resource conservation concerns," according to Tim Church of the CNSOPB.

PAUL MCLEOD / METRO HALIFAX



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Canada



No budget adjustments: Flaherty

Finance Minister Jim Flaherty said he has no immediate plans to tinker with his budget, unveiled in late January, even though the economy has shed tens of thousands more jobs than the fiscal plan had envisioned, a newspaper reported Saturday. Flaherty's budget, unveiled on Jan. 27, aimed to create or maintain about 190,000 jobs within the current fiscal year, which began April 1.

REUTERS

Defence dependent on battery power: Study

MILITARY The military has air power and firepower in Afghanistan, but providing Canadian soldiers with sufficient battery power is a multimillion-dollar concern for the country's war planners, according to an extensive defence department study.

While a rifle may be the soldier's most trusted ally, the modern force can be effectively neutralized without a steady supply of AAs. The simple alkaline battery now powers soldiers' night-vision goggles, flashlights, radios and global-positioning systems, as well as night, thermal and laser-guided gun sights.

"It used to be that the army marched on its stomach. I think it's changed now," said Scott Taylor, publisher of the military magazine *Esprit de Corps*, who served in the Canadian army in the 1980s. "They've got a lot more things that they've got to think about besides just feeding these guys. It's becoming high-tech soldiering."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Hefty bill

- The cost of equipping all the 2,800 Canadian soldiers in Afghanistan with enough juice for a standard six-month deployment — 750,000 batteries — can run up to \$1 million.

Cries for help on the rise

Calls to women's shelter increases during economic downturn

Worrying about paying the bills and feeding the kids is always a stressful time. But in this tough economy, it's resulting in a dramatic increase in calls to the Calgary Women's Emergency Shelter.

The shelter has reported 1,366 calls in February alone — a 300 per cent increase from the year before.

Fred, a former abuser who has gone through counselling, says he knows all too well how easily financial stress can trigger emotions.

In Halifax

• Laurie Ehler, executive director with Bryony House, a transition house for abused women and their children, said Halifax wasn't hit as hard in the early stages of the recession as other areas, but she expects an increase in numbers of people seeking help soon.

"I know the number of calls is up right now, and the only thing I can say is try to be positive and work together. It's a difficult time but you just have to

try and ride it out," he said. Fred said the stress of losing a job and not being able to pay bills can take a toll on families.

"But there is no excuse for abuse."

While Fred has gone through counselling over the years and reconciled with his fourth wife of 17 years, other women in the city aren't as fortunate, according to shelter executive director Lisa Falkowsky.

"The number of people seeking support from professional counsellors on

our telephone helpline and needing the security of our shelter continues to escalate to numbers and severity we've never seen before," she said.

Falkowsky links the increase to the dwindling economy, but can't pinpoint why Calgary may be higher than the rest of the country, except that Calgary is usually higher to begin with. "Calgary seems to be hit harder than other cities and people may be taking it harder," she added.

KRISTA SYLVESTER/
METRO CANADA

Disabled homeless man ID'd as victim

VANCOUVER A homeless, one-legged man in a wheelchair who was well-known in an east Vancouver neighbourhood was identified by police yesterday as the city's 13th homicide victim of the year.

Michael Ciro Nestoruk, 41, was found dead Thursday by parents dropping off their children at Sir Guy Carleton Elementary in the Collingwood neighbourhood. His body was on school property.

NDP health critic Adrian Dix said the area has been dealing with the issue of violence in its community for the past few years.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Calgary Easter fun



Zha-Zha from Just Kidding paints little three-year-old Celia Yu's face at Fort Calgary's annual Spring Fever event yesterday. Kids and families gathered at the event full of arts, crafts and games.

Canadian threatened with death in Darfur

HOSTAGES Kidnappers holding two aid workers in Sudan's Darfur region said yesterday they will kill them unless Paris retrieved members of a French group convicted but later pardoned over the abduction of children from Chad.

An unnamed member of a group holding the two female aid workers captive and calling itself the Freedom Eagles of Africa also threatened to target French interests in Sudan, Chad and the Central African Republic if their demands were unmet.

Stephanie Joidon, a Canadian, and Claire Dubois, a French national, working for Aid Medicale Internationale (AMI) were seized at gunpoint from their compound in the

Zoe's Ark

- Six members of humanitarian group Zoe's Ark were jailed in 2007 for trying to fly children, aged between one and 10, out of Chad to Europe. Chad said they had no authorization to take the children out of the country.

south Darfur settlement of Ed el Fursan on April 4.

"We demand France open the case of the Zoe's Ark criminals and judge them through a fair court," one of the abductors told Reuters by telephone.

"If the French government is not serious in negotiations with us and does not respond to our request, we will kill the two aid workers," he said.

REUTERS

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Militants kill six miners in resource-rich Pakistan province
Separatist militants in Pakistan's Baluchistan province have claimed responsibility for killing six coal-mine workers as violence intensified in the resource-rich province. Bullet-ridden bodies of six coal-mine workers were found in mountains near Marwar, 35 kilometres east of the provincial capital, Quetta. **REUTERS**

World



Pope's calls for peace

Pope Benedict called in his Easter message yesterday for a renewed push for Israeli-Palestinian peace just weeks before he travels to the Holy Land for the first time as pontiff. The Pope also sent greetings to survivors of Italy's devastating earthquake and urged all those fearful for their futures, for whatever reason, not to lose hope. **REUTERS**

U.S. captain held by pirates rescued

The U.S. Navy shot dead three Somali pirates and rescued cargo ship captain Richard Phillips yesterday from a lifeboat off the coast of Somalia where he was being held captive, ending a five-day standoff.

Phillips' life was in danger when Navy snipers aboard a nearby U.S. destroyer shot his Somali captors, freeing him unharmed and killing three of the four pirates who had held him after trying to seize his vessel, the Navy said. The fourth pirate was in custody.

A U.S. Navy commander made a split-second decision to fire on the pirates because he believed that

Stricter laws could combat piracy?

• The drama over the captain's hostage off the coast of Somalia underscores a need for a tighter legal net to fight rampant piracy, U.S. Coast Guard Commandant Admiral Thad Allen said. New international

agreements would allow other countries to more effectively protect shipments in Somali waters and try pirates, and give shipping companies an alternative to paying ransoms, he told ABC's This Week.

Phillips, who tried to escape Friday, faced danger amid tense hostage talks with his captors and deteriorating sea conditions.

"They were pointing the AK-47s at the captain," Vice Admiral William Gortney, head of the U.S. Naval Central Command, said in a Pentagon briefing. U.S. President Barack

Obama granted the Pentagon's request for standing authority to use appropriate force to save the life of the captain, Gortney said.

In remarks yesterday, Obama welcomed the rescue, praised the U.S. military and vowed to curb rampant piracy.

Phillips, captain of the Maersk Alabama container



Maersk Alabama captain Richard Phillips, right, with Cmdr. Frank Castellano of the USS Bainbridge, after being rescued by U.S. naval forces off the coast of Somalia yesterday.

ship, had contacted his family, received a medical

evaluation, and was resting comfortably. **REUTERS**

UN draft calling for N. Korea sanctions 'symbolic at best'

CRITICS Six world powers have agreed to a draft UN Security Council statement condemning North Korea's rocket launch but analysts in Asia said yesterday its call for tougher sanctions against Pyongyang may be symbolic at best.

Five permanent council members, including the North's key ally China, and Japan agreed on Saturday to the so-called "presidential statement" with tough wording as a compromise between inaction and Tokyo's demand for a legally binding fresh resolution.

China's decision to sign onto the tough statement indicates Pyongyang will likely shrug off the measure despite its earlier threat to take "strong steps" if the council acted, mainly because the impact of any sanctions would be limited, analysts said.

"The largest significance of the statement is symbolic at best," Yoo Ho-yeol, an expert on the North at Korea University in Seoul, said of the draft statement. "North Korea, if it wants to engage in illegal activities, will do so no matter what."

North Korea said it successfully launched a satellite into space on April 5 but Japan, South Korea and the U.S. said it was a long-range missile test in disguise and no satellite was orbited. **REUTERS**

Italy A bitter Easter



A family opens chocolate Easter eggs in a tent camp where earthquake victims are sheltering in L'Aquila, Italy yesterday. The country's worst earthquake in three decades killed at least 293 people and made nearly 40,000 homeless. Rescue efforts ended when exhausted firemen said all missing people had been accounted for on Saturday evening.

Real IRA threatens to take campaign to Britain

NORTHERN IRELAND A dissident nationalist group in Northern Ireland will carry out attacks in mainland Britain as part of its campaign for a united Ireland, a representative said yesterday.

The Real IRA, a splinter paramilitary group of the Irish Republican Army, also

claimed responsibility for the 2006 murder of Denis Donaldson, a former Sinn Féin chief administrator, and made threats against Sinn Féin deputy first minister Martin McGuinness. Sinn Féin is the IRA's political wing.

In an interview with Ire-

land's Sunday Tribune the representative said it planned to attack Britain "when it becomes opportune."

The Real IRA, which claimed responsibility for killing two British soldiers on March 7, said it would continue to target soldiers in the British province. **REUTERS**

Thai ministry stormed as PM declares emergency

BANGKOK Thai Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva declared a state of emergency yesterday to quell political unrest and threatened to take tough action against protesters who have gathered in Bangkok.

Anti-government protesters stormed the interior ministry yesterday, mobbing the prime minister's car and beat it with clubs as he drove away.

At a major junction in the capital, Thai soldiers fired warning shots at demonstrators who responded by hurling gas bombs, witnesses said.

Supporters of former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra triggered the emergency when they pushed into the venue of a major Asian summit, forcing the meetings to be cancelled. Some leaders had to flee by helicopter.

After declaring victory there, the "red shirt"

Travel warnings

• Several countries including Singapore and Britain have issued travel advisories for Thailand. The French Foreign Ministry yesterday "strongly recommended" its nationals delay any non-essential trips to Bangkok.

Thaksin supporters gathered in central Bangkok. By evening they numbered around 40,000.

The protesters set up makeshift roadblocks and men, some with sticks, manned the barricades. Near midnight, the crowd remained large, although some had headed home.

Thaksin, who has been making nightly phone calls to supporters from exile, said earlier yesterday it was now the "golden time" to rise up against the government. **REUTERS**

Protest numbers drop as 5,000 rally against Georgian president

TBILISI Up to 5,000 Georgians rallied on Saturday against President Mikheil Saakashvili, a sharp drop in numbers for the third day of an opposition street campaign to demand his resignation.

Opposition leaders gathered 60,000 on Thursday and 20,000 on Friday, and promised a nationwide

campaign of civil disobedience until Saakashvili quits over his record on democracy and last year's disastrous war with Russia.

The president has polarized opinion in the former Soviet republic since coming to power on the back of the 2003 Rose Revolution. He ruled out resigning on Friday. **REUTERS**

News in brief

NEW ORLEANS A teenage mother, her 23-month-old son and a six-year-old boy were found shot to death in an apartment in a crime-ridden neighborhood near New Orleans on Saturday, police officials said. A fourth victim, an 11-year-old girl, underwent surgery for multiple gunshot wounds. The two children were shot in the head.

SRI LANKA The nation's president yesterday ordered the military not to attack the Tamil Tigers during a two-day New Year holiday to let thousands of civilians escape a no-fire zone where they are being held by the separatists. Soldiers have encircled the remnants of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam in a 17-square-kilometre zone. **REUTERS**

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Comment & Views

Comment

Squirrels vs. Anne Hines

HineSight

Anne Hines

metronews.ca/hinesight



In the past week, many alert Metro readers have messaged me to ask why the column promo that appeared Friday, April 3 had nothing to do with what the column that ran Monday, April 6, was actually about. So, I thought I'd offer some insight into how a column is created.

Thursday morning, April 2, I emailed my Metro editor, informing him that Monday's column would be about squirrels. Squirrels and spring flowers.

And why the fact that I have one means I never, ever have any of the other.

"Mike," I said, "I'm writing about squirrels. Put the word out. People need to know. Squirrels it is. You

heard it here first."

I let Mike know this in case he wanted to run a promo in Friday's paper saying something like, "This Monday: Bloom Raiders — Hines vs. Squirrels in the Battle of the Bulbs."

Which pretty much describes the scene of floral carnage in my backyard each April.

Sometime later the same day I sent in the column. It was about buying a used car.

How could this happen?

It's not because the completely evil behaviour of squirrels hopped up on exotic Dutch tulip bulbs isn't of concern. I once wrote an entire article about how I'd like to blow up every squirrel in the world.

I got a lot of reader mail about that one. Mostly from gardeners wanting to know if blowing up squirrels is legal.

So, a piece titled, "Squirrels: What are they good for?" seemed like a fine idea. I even contacted a squirrel expert to pose this question. Our conversation went like this. Seriously.

Me: Do they also come from places that don't have teenagers?

Then it hit me. My city could become the international centre for Squirrel Tourism.

Way better than Ecotourism. They frown on you stashing a koala in your bag whereas our clients would be encouraged to take home as many furry souvenirs as they can carry.

So, you see, I had every intention of writing about squirrels. But what happened is ... I didn't. The fact is the creative writing process is an unmanageable, untamable thing.

Much like creative writers. Or, I guess, squirrels.

ME: Excuse me?

SE: People visiting from cities that don't have squirrels find it interesting to see wild animals in the city.



ME:

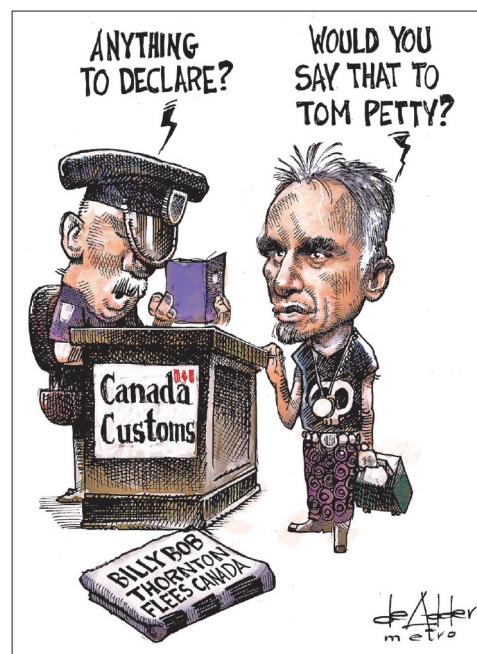
So, squirrels. More useless than beer glasses and nipple rings, right?

SE: Well ... tourists like them.

ME: Excuse me?

SE: People visiting from cities that don't have squirrels find it interesting to see wild animals in the city.

Anne Hines is an author and humour writer. She has written three novels and one collection of nonfiction humour.



MICHAEL DE ADAIR

Worth Mentioning

U.S. environmental factors pushing gas prices higher

The average U.S. retail gasoline price rose about 10 cents a gallon over the past three weeks due to environmental costs linked to warmer weather, though the price was 40 per cent lower than a year earlier, according to the Lundberg survey released yesterday.

The average national price for self-serve regular unleaded gasoline was \$2.048 a gallon on April 10, up 9.58 cents from March 20, according to the survey of gas stations.

The price was a whopping \$1.27 below a year ago levels, when crude oil prices soared.

"The major cause of the rise of nearly a dime in three weeks is seasonal gasoline demand, not only because our consumption rises month by month, but because of the cost of environmental compliance,"

Survey editor Trilby Lundberg said in an interview.

As the weather warms, refineries are required to limit vapour pressure in order to avoid smog production. This will add to the cost across North America, she said.

The lower gas prices could spur demand, which is likely to result in a rise in prices, but nowhere near the record \$4.112 per gallon set on July 11, 2008.

REUTERS



Views

Take stock of your actions on Earth Day

CleanBreak

Rochelle Owen

metronews.ca/cleanbreak



April 22 is commonly celebrated as Earth Day in many countries.

Its origin dates back to 1970 with the efforts of a senator Gaylord Nelson and a dedicated team who engaged more than 20 million people in environmental events across the United States. In 1991, Earth Day Canada was created. Today, Earth Day is used to promote year round action.

The Earth is a big place. The Earth around its mid-section (circumference) is

about 40,074 kilometres. If you wanted to drive the distance this would be like going from Halifax to Sydney, Cape Breton (about 400 km) each day for 100 days. To lighten your footprint perhaps you could walk it. This would take 13,335 days at a rate of 30 km day or about 37 years.

Walk and swim I should say, as 70 per cent of the Earth is water and much of the time you would be in a boat or swimming.

Beyond the mass of the Earth is its atmosphere that extends out 10,000 km. Beyond the atmosphere is one crucial thing that all life on Earth is supported by — the sun. The sun drives our climate, weather and the process of photosynthesis that converts light energy into food and oxygen.

Bioblitz

- Bioblitz is a survey that identifies the biodiversity of a natural area.
- You can check out Bioblitz and what they're doing at www.smu.ca/bioblitz/welcome.html

We have made significant impacts on the Earth and surrounding atmosphere through the double effect of our numbers (now about 6,772,655,616) and our activity. The World Watch Institute has been reporting on ecological trends for a number of years through publications such as State of the World. Ecological health, for the most part, is in a negative spiral though there are a few success stories in pollution reduction. Earth

Day is a day to take stock of the state of the Earth and how we can use our collective and individual action to shift unhealthy impacts and trends.

Check out the Earth Day Canada Foundation home page for activities in your area.

For example there is a walk in the morning at Point Pleasant Park in Halifax.

Increase your understanding of local and international ecological trends. One quick introduction would be to take part on June 5 and 6, in the Bioblitz to be run in the Blue Mountain — Birch Cove Lake area behind Bayer's Lake Industrial Park.

Rochelle Owen is director of sustainability at Dalhousie University. She has worked in the environment and sustainability field for 19 years; rochelle.owen@gmail.com.

Metro Online Poll Results

47% SAID More

Since the beginning of the year, have you become more or less optimistic about the economy?

53% SAID Less

Weigh in on today's question at metronews.ca

It's your turn to tell others what you think. Email your thoughts and opinions to: halifaxletters@metronews.ca

Letters must include sender's full name, address and phone number — street name and phone numbers will NOT be published. We reserve the right to edit letters.

Going Green

Shoppers offers green line

Shoppers Drug Mart gives Canadians an effective new way to clean at home and be good to the planet with the Earth-friendly Clean Planet product line. Formulated and produced in Canada by Qwatro Corp., Clean Planet features a comprehensive range of home cleaning products that are biodegradable, phosphate-free and recyclable.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: MIKE.DEREZYCKY@METRONEWS.CA

News in brief

TIPS Here are some ways you can make a difference to the environment throughout the year from TD Friends of the Environment Foundation: Walk or bike to work, or to run errands; use energy-efficient appliances; open the windows and give the air conditioner a rest during the summer; grow your own food, and encourage kids to get involved by helping to plant the seeds and watch the fruits and vegetables grow.

NEWS CANADA

EarthTones

Sophia Dore & Andrew Laursen



metronews.ca/earthtones

Earth Tones will return.



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The new breed of lawn care

Save time, money and reduce your carbon footprint without pesticides

CRAIG MACPHERSON
for Metro Canada



On April 22 (Earth Day) the Ontario provincial government will implement the ban of pesticides for cosmetic use. It's also a hot topic in municipalities across the country.

No more Killex, Par III, Merit for grubs ... the list goes on.

This has left many in the lawn care industry scrambling to find effective alternatives, or reposition their brand, not to mention the confusion of the homeowner running to stock up on pesticides, but it doesn't have to be that way.

The best way to keep your lawn weed-free and resistant to disease and insect infestation is a sound maintenance program that begins with soil testing.

By testing your soil and having it evaluated by an accredited lab you can find out what deficiencies your soil may have and treat them organically with a program designed specifically for your lawn.

Sounds expensive, but it's not. This procedure can be completed for around \$40.

Next, whether you're a do-it-yourselfer, or have a lawn company taking care of your lawn, proper fertilization, aeration (prefer-



A sound maintenance system is the key to maintaining a healthy lawn without the use of pesticides.

ably twice a year), watering, cutting and over-seeding are key.

Annual fall over-seeding especially is your golden ticket to success, but be careful. Don't skimp and buy cheap seed. The less expensive the seed, the more weed seeds you'll be putting back into your lawn. Likewise, topsoil is just as bad. Remember, we are trying to prevent the germination of weeds, not

add to the problem.

One suggestion is a low-maintenance seed blend like Eco-Lawn, which doesn't require topsoil, has a deep root system (22.86 centimetres in clay-based soils requiring little or no water), performs well in shade as well as full sun, and grows slowly. It is also high in endophyte to help guard against foliar-feeding insects like chinch bugs.

Grass seeds like Eco-Lawn are the most inexpensive and environmentally friendly way to keep your lawn thick and weed-free. Over time, you won't need to care as much for your lawn, you will conserve water and cut down on lawn mower emissions, without fertilizer, or weed control.

For too long the lawn care industry has been feeding the top growth in-

stead of your soil, creating a shallow root system for your grass. Why? Because it's faster and more cost-effective to do it that way.

Now it's your turn to save time and money and reduce your carbon footprint at the same time.

Embrace the new breed of lawn care.

Craig MacPherson is the owner of Durham Lawn Jockey, an Ontario-based lawn care company.

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I'M THINKING



Alcoa laying off 275 at Quebec plant

U.S. aluminum company Alcoa Inc. is laying off about 275 workers at its Quebec smelter in Becancour after the union refused to cut workers' hours to help trim costs. **CBC NEWS ONLINE**

9

Business

EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

**Wal-Mart workers get contract**

It took nearly four years, but unionized workers at a Quebec Wal-Mart store now have their first collective agreement, a first in North America. A Quebec arbitrator sealed the two-year deal for employees at the St-Hyacinthe Wal-Mart east of Montreal earlier this week. The new agreement includes a \$0.30-per-hour wage increase on a yearly basis for current employees. **CBC NEWS ONLINE**

Canadians stingy with wireless devices

Flimsy 70% market penetration puts country on par with Vietnam, Mexico: Survey

Canada may be the home of global success story Research In Motion Ltd. and its popular BlackBerry smartphone, but the country remains rather poky when it comes to the number of people that actually own and use wireless devices.

Despite being an otherwise tech-savvy nation, Canada's rate of wireless penetration continues to

hover at a meagre 70 per cent, a survey released last Thursday by research firm TNS has found.

That puts Canada near the bottom of 31 other countries in the online survey, on par with Vietnam and Mexico and just ahead of last-ranked India.

By contrast, the United States boasts a wireless penetration rate closer to 90 per cent, according to

Market fears

- Telus Corp.'s stock fell 11 per cent to close at \$31.58 on the Toronto Stock Exchange last week, while shares of

Rogers Communications Inc. and BCE Inc. also slumped amid concerns about a slowdown in the wireless sector.

industry statistics.

The survey also found Canadians are only willing to spend about \$140 on their next device. By con-

trast, users in other countries are willing to shell out as much as \$490, a discrepancy that's partly due to the history of Canadian

carriers subsidizing handset prices in exchange for locking subscribers into lengthy wireless contracts. The findings were released on the same day that Telus Corp. said a weak economy would hurt first-quarter wireless results after dragging down subscriber additions and the average price of customers' monthly bills.

But while cash-strapped

Canadians are cutting back on their wireless spending, critics argue limited competition and high wireless prices have also played a role in keeping cellphone customers on the sidelines, an issue Ottawa attempted to address last year when it set aside spectrum in an auction of wireless airwaves for industry newcomers.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

China Scrambling for work



Graduates crowd in front of an information board outside a job fair held in Lanzhou, Gansu province yesterday. The global economic crisis has made it all the more important to take a fresh look at China's human resources. The country's immediate challenge is to tackle unemployment, while in the long run it has to develop human resources to support a shift in its growth strategy, the Xinhua News Agency reported.

61,000 jobs slashed in March

EMPLOYMENT Canadian employers cut 61,000 net jobs in March, pushing the unemployment rate up 0.3 of a percentage point to eight per cent, a seven-year high.

Among the provinces, British Columbia posted the steepest drop in employment, with a net loss of 23,000 positions, followed by Alberta, which shed 15,000 jobs.

Overall employment has fallen each month since peaking in October, bringing the net number of lost

Predictions

- Some economists are forecasting Canada's unemployment rate will hit 10 per cent by next year.
- Economists at the Bank of Nova Scotia warned last week that job losses this year could reach 750,000.

jobs to 357,000.

The heavy employment losses last month were spread across many sec-

tors. Manufacturing employment, which has been hit hard by massive layoffs in the auto industry, fell by another 34,000 positions in March. That brought total losses in the sector to 134,000 since October.

Construction also continued to feel the pinch, shedding 18,000 positions, while natural resources lost 11,000 jobs as the downturn hit Alberta's once-thriving energy industry.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Bill seeks transparency in concert ticket resales

MUSIC The concert industry is awaiting further details about legislation that would impose a 48-hour waiting period after a concert on-sale before a ticket reseller can buy those tickets to put on the secondary

market.

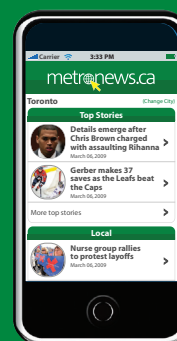
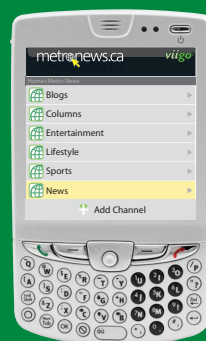
The aim of the bill, initiated by U.S. Senator Charles Schumer, is to make ticketing more transparent and give the public a fair shot at tickets. Schumer's legislation

would require ticket resellers to register with the Federal Trade Commission and post their registration number on all brokerage websites in an attempt to prevent fraudulent, anonymous sales. **REUTERS**

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KEEPING YOU UPDATED

Business in brief

MARKETS If Wells Fargo's strong first-quarter preliminary performance is any sign, stocks could rally further this week on any reassuring

news when three other big banks post quarterly results.

BANKING China will continue to implement a relaxed mone-

tary policy and keep sufficient liquidity in the banking system, the People's Bank of China said yesterday.

REUTERS

Buffalo Sabres bench boss Lindy Ruff has been named head coach of the Canadian team for the upcoming IIHF World Hockey Championship in Switzerland. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Sports

EDITOR: JOHN.CHICK@METRONews.CA



Driver charged with murder

A 22-year old man was charged with three counts of murder and drunken driving Friday in the crash that killed Los Angeles Angels pitcher Nick Adenhardt and two others. Police allege Andrew Thomas Gallo ran a red light in California's Orange County early Thursday and broadsided a car carrying Adenhardt and three friends. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**



Meghan Duggan of the U.S. celebrates an American goal against Charline Labonte yesterday in Finland.

Americans defend title against Canada

The U.S. won its second consecutive women's world hockey championship with a 4-1 win over Canada yesterday in Finland.

The Americans have won back-to-back titles for the first time after beating Canada 4-3 in last year's final in China.

The Americans are 4-2 versus Canada in their last six games and are 3-0 in finals of their last three international tournaments.

Caitlin Cahow scored a pair of goals and Meghan Duggan also scored for the U.S. Hilary Knight added an empty-net goal.

Winnipeg's Jennifer Botterill replied for Canada.

The Americans scored on their first shift of the game. Jenny Potter found Cahow on the edge of Canada's crease and the defenceman backhanded

the puck over goalie Charline Labonte's pad 24 seconds after the opening face-off.

Host Finland won the bronze medal for the ninth time in the tournament's history with a 4-1 win over Sweden earlier in the day.

The sparse women's international hockey calendar traditionally consists of the world championships, the annual Four Nations Cup involving the top four countries and a European Cup.

However, Canada and the U.S. have scheduled six exhibition games against each other next winter. In addition to the Four Nations Cup in Finland, an Olympic test event will be held in Vancouver starting Aug. 31. The Hockey Canada Cup will feature Canada, the U.S., Sweden and Finland. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Cabrera the Master

Argentina's Angel Cabrera won his second major title with a nerve-jangling playoff victory at the Masters yesterday.

The 2007 U.S. Open champion edged out Americans Kenny Perry and Chad Campbell, clinching the Green Jacket with a par four at the second extra hole.

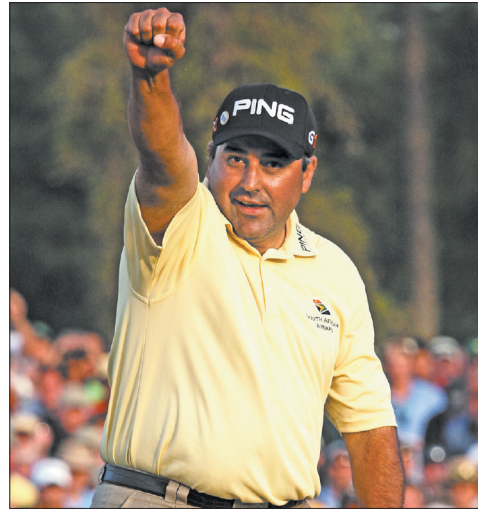
After hitting his approach to 12 feet, Cabrera calmly two-putted before raising his right arm in celebration.

Perry, 48, bidding to become golf's oldest major champion, had overshot the green with his second stroke and was unable to save par after chipping back 18 feet past the hole.

Campbell, like Perry seeking his first major triumph, dropped out when he bogeyed the first extra hole, the par-four 18th, after hitting his approach into a bunker.

It was the third playoff at Augusta in the last seven years, and the first involving three men since Larry Mize edged out Seve Ballesteros and Greg Norman in 1987.

Cabrera (71), Perry (71) and Campbell (69) had finished the regulation 72



Angel Cabrera celebrates his par-saving putt on the first sudden death playoff hole at the Masters yesterday.

holes tied on 12-under 276. Japan's Shingo Katayama birdied two of the last three holes for a 68 to finish fourth on 10 under, a stroke in front of Phil Mickelson, who covered the front nine in a record-equaling six-under-par 30 en route to a 67.

World number one and four-time winner Tiger Woods had to settle for a share of sixth place at eight under after bogeying the last two holes for a 68. Calgary's Stephen Ames was the top Canadian, tying for 20th at two over.

REUTERS

Curling Scotland tops Canada



Canada's third John Morris watches the line of his shot as Scotland's second Peter Smith looks on during the World Men's Curling Championship gold medal game in Moncton last night. Scotland beat Canada for the third time in the tournament, 7-6, to capture the title.

Troini joins Moose as coach

QMJHL Jason Troini is returning to the Halifax Mooseheads to become an assistant coach with the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League team. Troini, a forward with the Mooseheads from 1996 to 2000, was coaching the Nova Scotia Major Midget Hockey League's Dartmouth Subways this season. Troini will join head coach Cam Russell and current assistants Chris Donnelly and Jeff MacLeod. Troini will be replaced as Subways head coach by Brad Crossley, who is no stranger to the position. Crossley coached the Subways for all but one season from 1992 to 2007. In other Mooseheads news, the team has made a change in goaltending coaches. Patrick Dallaire is now out, and his replacement is Brad MacCharles. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Sports in brief

AHL Justin Pender has finished his season with the American Hockey League's Lowell Devils. The 20-year-old overage defenceman with the Halifax Mooseheads joined the Devils after signing a tryout contract after Halifax failed to make the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League post-season. Pender had two assists in two games with the Devils.

AUS The Dalhousie Tigers men's hockey team has added two new recruits for next season. Joining the fold are Ron Kelly and Jordan Gagne of the British Columbia Hockey League's Westside Warriors. Kelly, a five-foot-11 centre, recorded 52 points in 67 games with Westside. Gagne, a six-foot forward, had 35 goals and 54 points in 60 games, putting him eighth in league scoring.

NBA Dwyane Wade's career-high 55 points yesterday fell one shy of matching the franchise scoring record for a single game and helped the Heat crush the Knicks, 122-105, as Miami secured the East's fifth playoff seed. Wade failed to tie Glen Rice's franchise record of 56 points in one game. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

SCOREBOARD

QMJHL

PLAYOFFS

TONIGHT'S GAME

Cape Breton at Quebec

NHL

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Boston 6 N.Y. Islanders 2
Chicago 3 Detroit 0
N.Y. Rangers 4 Philadelphia 3
St. Louis 1 Colorado 0

SATURDAY'S RESULTS

Calgary 4 Edmonton 1
Pittsburgh 3 Montreal 1
Toronto 5 Ottawa 2
Vancouver 1 Colorado 0 (OT)
Atlanta 6 Tampa Bay 2
Buffalo 6 Boston 1
Chicago 4 Detroit 2
Florida 7 Washington 4
Los Angeles 4 San Jose 3
Minnesota 6 Columbus 3

New Jersey 3 Carolina 2
Philadelphia 3 N.Y. Islanders 2
Phoenix 5 Anaheim 4 (SO)

END REGULAR SEASON

NBA

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Toronto 111 Philadelphia 104
Cleveland 107 Boston 76
Miami 122 New York 105
New Orleans 102 Dallas 92
San Antonio at Sacramento

TONIGHT'S GAMES

Memphis at L.A. Lakers
Toronto at Washington
Cleveland at Indiana
Charlotte at New Jersey
Chicago at Detroit
Orlando at Milwaukee
New Orleans at Houston
Minnesota at Dallas
Sacramento at Denver

L.A. Clippers at Utah
Memphis at Phoenix
Oklahoma City at Portland
San Antonio at Golden State

MLB

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Cleveland 8 Toronto 4
Chicago White Sox 6 Minnesota 1
Detroit 6 Texas 4
Kansas City 6 N.Y. Yankees 4
L.A. Angels 5 Boston 4
Seattle 1 Oakland 0
Tampa Bay 11 Baltimore 3
Atlanta 8 Washington 5
Cincinnati 2 Pittsburgh 0
Florida 2 N.Y. Mets 1
St. Louis 3 Houston 0
Philadelphia at Colorado
San Francisco at San Diego
L.A. Dodgers at Arizona
Chicago Cubs at Milwaukee

For more sports coverage visit: **metronews.ca**



Metro Workology exclusive: Paws and Claws

Be sure to read Workology and Metronews.ca/work for our pet industry feature series Paws and Claws. Seen here are Sooshi the Jack Russel Terrier and Kupo the cat, submitted by a loyal Metro reader.



Workology

EDITOR: DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

Western Canada needs boost

In order to address the large high school drop-out rate and low PSE enrolment in Western Canada, the four western provinces should join forces to set and work towards a higher graduation target for the region, according to a new report from the Canada West Foundation. The problem is particularly dire in Saskatchewan and Manitoba because of their expansive rural areas, states the report. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Call her 'The Sleep Doula'

OddJobs

Diane Peters

Metronews.ca/oddjobs



Tracey Ruiz has dubbed herself, The Sleep Doula.

When babies can't fall asleep and wake up constantly in the night, it makes new parents crazy with exhaustion and frustration.

To save their sanity — and their marriages — some call in sleep doula Tracey Ruiz.

Ruiz, 39, is also a regular doula who attends births and helps parents postpartum. Eleven years ago, however, she'd only been to one birth — her own Caesarian section with her son.

Then, while pregnant with her daughter, a friend needed a lift to the hospital. Ruiz stayed for the entire labour, holding her hand and talking to her. After the birth, which

Ruiz thought was "amazing" the nurse said, "You should be a doula."

"What? You can get paid to do this?" Ruiz thought. But after her second maternity leave, Ruiz went back to her job at FedEx. A few years later, when the company started a program where it offered sabbaticals, she took one and began training through Doulas of North America.

She never went back, but instead began attending births and helping parents with newborns. "It's been a great business to grow as my children have grown," she says.

Ruiz got known for her

nighttime post-partum support. Then more and more clients wanted assistance with sleep. So she trademarked the name "The Sleep Doula" four years ago and created a new service.

Today, Ruiz's Birth Solutions employs ten doulas, four of whom also do sleep (it makes up about 60 per cent of the business).

Some customers sign up for Ruiz's so-called epidural to sleep training: In-home support. For this, Ruiz shows up at the child's bedtime. The parents put the baby down awake and Ruiz stays in the room shushing the ba-

by to sleep.

Whenever the little one wakes up, Ruiz is there — lying in front of the crib wrapped in a comforter — to shush and chat the baby back to sleep. On night two, she just shushes. By night three, the parents can do the job.

By the end of the week, parents usually have an excellent sleeper.

With all this night work and her BlackBerry going off at all hours, Ruiz herself rarely gets eight hours in a row. "I sleep here and there," she says.

Diane Peters once hawked magic pens at the Canadian National Exhibition. She's now a writer and part-time journalism instructor.



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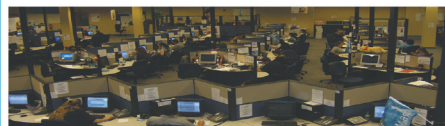
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Entertainment

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

Corner Gas runs dry

Canadian sitcom closes shop after six seasons on CTV

IAN JOHNSTON
for Metro Canada

Brent Butt thinks his decision to end Corner Gas was a good one. Well, he's pretty sure, anyway.

"It's something that has kept me awake at night, wondering if I made the right call," says series creator/star Butt, who is pulling the plug on the CTV sitcom tonight after six phenomenally successful seasons.

"Should we end the show? But the answer that always comes back to me is yes, every time."

Still, as decisions go, it was a tough one. Corner Gas wasn't exactly ER, stumbling towards its demise. Corner Gas still averages more than a million Canuck viewers in an era when half that would get you renewed.

As well, it's not like popular Canadian comedies come along every day.

"Early on, CTV said to me it's your call on ending the show," recalls Butt. "And I started getting a



Corner Gas averages more than a million viewers, but the show's creator and star Brent Butt says the time is right to pull the plug.

feeling a while back — is the time right? I really didn't want the show to repeat itself. But it was 107 episodes. It's not like we just got started."

For fans, tonight's finale will be a daylong experience that begins with a cast tribute on Canada AM. Later, a 7:30 p.m. (ET) re-

rospective special provides a lead-in for the Corner Gas finale at 9:30 p.m.

"It's a crazy day. But in a good way. Hunter S. Thompson said there's a good weird and bad weird. And this is a good weird."

Although he was reluctant to give details on the finale, Butt thinks it will

"If you like Corner Gas, you'll like how we end it. I like how we end it."

Brent Butt

deliver what fans want.

"If you like Corner Gas, you'll like how we end it. I like how we end it."

As for his future, Butt has already shot a TV pilot for another series (Hiccups). There's also a feature film in his future.

But one wonders about his future. Does Butt worry about being typecast as that lovable schlub on Corner Gas?

"I don't know. I never thought of myself as an actor. I feel I act the way Bob Hope or Bob Newhart act. Whether the part is a welder, a detective or an astronaut, I'm always the same guy."

Pump it up

• The finale of Corner Gas airs tonight on CTV.

Box office

- 1 Hannah Montana: The Movie:**
\$34 million US
- 2 Fast & Furious:**
\$28.8 million
- 3 Monsters vs. Aliens:**
\$22.6 million

- 4 Observe and Report:**
\$11.1 million
- 5 Knowing:**
\$6.7 million
- 6 I Love You, Man:**
\$6.4 million
- 7 The Haunting in Connecticut:**
\$5.7 million

- 8 Dragonball Evolution:**
\$4.7 million
- 9 Adventureland:**
\$3.4 million
- 10 Duplicity:**
\$3.0 million

REUTERS

Hannah Montana hits target

Hannah Montana: The Movie

Director: Peter Chelsom

Stars: Miley Cyrus

Classification: G

Rating: ●●●●

STEVE GOW
for Metro Canada

If you're not the parent of a 10 year-old girl, perhaps the phenomenon that is the hit TV show-turned-movie Hannah Montana has somehow escaped your world. For such uneducated souls, let me bring you up to speed.

Miley Cyrus plays Miley Stewart, a simple country-girl who also just happens to lead a double-life as Hannah Montana, the most famous pop star in the world.

As Miley, she carries on about her normal life with her father (played by real dad, Billy Ray) escaping no-



Miley Cyrus stars in Hannah Montana: The Movie.

tice from her famous alter-ego. And how does she pull off that incredible feat exactly? Well, by wearing a blonde wig of course.

In the big-screen adaptation, Miley's alter-ego is becoming too bloated for her own good when she gets in a shoe-fight with Tyra Banks. "Think of it as a Hannah detox," Miley's father explains before hijacking her back to

Tennessee where the reluctant star discovers family, love and most importantly, her-aw-shucks-self.

Yes, the plot of Hannah Montana is as conventional and simple as that; there's no mistaking its means to cater to a pre-pubescent audience by keeping things structured and easy. But you know what? That's okay.

For what this film aims to be, it mostly works. Sure, there are some expected plot holes and flat bits (like the pointless, unfunny brother character and a cornball ending), but infused with cute, down-home gags and catchy, countrified pop, Hannah Montana will definitely uplift its young audience without overly annoying the adults. Though, I'll be honest — I could still use a Hannah detox myself.

Ocotom reality show in works

Octo Mom...coming to a TV near you? Nadya Suleman's lawyer Jeff Czech says she's met with four production companies so far this week about creating a reality show to follow her brood of 14. **USMAGAZINE.COM**

DMB rocks out for the departed

From the bluesy sax solo that opens the album, to the inspired songs and performances, it's clear that this one's for LeRoi.

Big Whiskey and the GrooGrux King, the Dave Matthews Band's first album since 2005, draws upon a number of sources of inspiration: Producer Rob Cavallo (Green Day, My Chemical Romance), the band's maturation and a focus on creating a studio project on a level with the band's potency as one of the most popular live acts in rock history. But it's hard to deny the impact of the loss of founding member LeRoi Moore, who last summer died of complications from injuries suffered in an all-terrain-vehicle accident after work on the album had begun.

"Everything was really hard after Roi's death," Matthews says. "But when we were all spending time together and listened to what he had already



The Dave Matthews Band's new album *Big Whiskey and the GrooGrux King* comes out in the summer.

played, we really had time to think about him and be grateful for the time we had with him."

Violinist Boyd Tinsley agrees that the sessions helped pull the band members together. "You're in the studio and you look around, and there's somebody missing," he says.

Even so, the energy around the DMB camp is positive now as the members gear up to promote what they feel could be a

career-changing album, due June 2 on RCA.

The Mardi Gras-inspired GrooGrux began more than a year ago at the band's hometown studio in Charlottesville, Va., where Moore's skills as an arranger and idea man were instrumental in putting together many of the musical concepts that led to the songs on the record.

"We had two, maybe three sessions before he had the accident," says drummer Carter Beauford, "and those were the very crucial stages of this project, because we had to lay down the very foundation of this whole sound."

After Moore's accident while on a tour break in July and his death in August, the band resumed work on the album last fall in Seattle. The band took a break for the holidays and regrouped earlier this year in New Orleans, with final work completed at Cavallo's home studio. **REUTERS**

Game that changed it all



When March Went Mad

Author: Seth Davis
Publisher: Times Books
Price: \$29 (Hardcover)

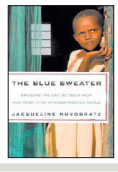
On March 26, 1979, two college basketball teams came head to head in the NCAA finals in Salt Lake City. Each had slayed their own hurdles to get to the game. And each had a star player that would change basketball — and the relevance of the sport at the college level — forever. Sports Illustrated writer Seth Davis traces the roots of then Michigan State Spartan, Earvin "Magic" Johnson and then Indiana State Sycamore Larry Bird, observing their influence of the game in America. Davis marks just when and why March turned (and stayed) mad.



The Writing on my Forehead

Author: Nafisa Haji
Publisher: HarperCollins
Price: \$22.99 (Paperback)

Nafisa Haji takes readers on an international, intergenerational trip of self-realization in *The Writing on my Forehead*. California teen of Indo-Pakistani heritage Saira Qader comes to the early conclusion that she doesn't want to follow the traditions of her family. Instead, she pursues journalism to learn and report on the ways and wars of others. But a tragedy later in life calls her loyalties into question. Saira must decide whether to continue to blaze her own trail, or, seemingly more appealing, return home to face formalities but compromise her independence.



The Blue Sweater

Author: Jacqueline Novogratz
Publisher: Rodale
Price: \$27.95 (Hardcover)

Before Jacqueline Novogratz started the non-profit anti-poverty Acumen Fund, the chance acquisition of a blue sweater shifted her life's focus from the bottom line to battling poverty. Novogratz had her "Eureka!" moment when the gift she'd been given and later donated to Goodwill ended up on the back of a boy she met while travelling in Rwanda. In her memoir *The Blue Sweater*, Novogratz recalls how the occurrence enlightened her to the interconnectedness of the world and encouraged her call to action. Novogratz explores why conventional charitable means aren't always so effective and offers an alternative.

BRIAN COULTON/FOR METRO CANADA

BookPicks

HA	H	D	B	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
4/13/09	31	31	31	ABC	News (N)	ABC Wild News	Inside Edition	Chronicle	Dancing With the Stars		Surviving Sub.	Castle
	7	7	7	ASN	The Road to Avonlea	Instant Star	TMZ (N)	Dancing With the Stars			Corner Gas	Castle
	11	11	11	CBC	Coronation St.	Jeopardy! (N)	Little Mosque	Sophie (HDTV)	Comedy Fest.	CBC News: The National	Belle-bale (N)	The Hour
	2	2	2	CBC-F	Urgences (SC)		Virginie (SC)	La Petite vie	Chère Betty (HDTV) (SC)		Belle-bale (N)	Le Téléjournal
	32	32	32	CBS	News (N)	Evening News	The Insider (N)	Entertainment	Big Bang Th	How I Met	24 (HDTV PA) (N)	News (N)
	69	69	69	CFTM	TVA 18 heures	Le Cercle (SC)	Bloopers TVA	Star académie (HDTV) (Season Finale) (N)			TVA 22 heures	Michel Barrette
	6	6	6	CHIF	Entertainment	ET Canada	Heroes '1961' (N)	House 'Saviors' (N)			24 (HDTV PA) (N)	News (N)
	9	9	9	CJCH	Live at etalk	Its a Gas	CSI: Miami 'ChipTuck'	Big Bang Th	Gary Unmarr	24 (HDTV PA) (N)	News (N)	News (N)
	10	10	10	ELTV	EastLink Mag.	Fishing	Hav's Sportsland (Live)	Incl. Revolution	Harv's Sportsland		EastLink Television	
	36	36	36	FOX	Deal-No Deal	The Simpsons	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	House 'Saviors' (N)	24 (HDTV PA) (N)		Fox First
news	12	12	12	NBC	News (N)	NBC News	Hollywood	Extra (N)	Chuck (HDTV) (N)	Heroes '1961' (N)		Medium
	29	29	29	NW	World News	Business	CBC News	Mansbridge	The Hour	CBC News: The National		Plastic Surgery
	4	4	4	PBS-B	NewsHour With Jim Lehrer	NewsHour With Jim Lehrer	Business Rpt.	Worldfocus	Antiques Roadshow (N)	American Experience (N) (DVS)		
	35	35	35	PBS-D	NewsHour With Jim Lehrer	Business Rpt.	Worldfocus	Antiques Roadshow (N)	Antiques Roadshow (N)	American Experience (N) (DVS)		
	68	68	68	TQS	Rire et délire	Chemin du golf	Loft Story	C'Yune joke	CSI: NY 'Double empor' (SC)	Flash Point		110 pour cent
	23	23	23	BNN	Business News	Headline	Market Call	Berman's Call	Money Talks	Business News		Market Call
	18	18	18	CNN	Situation Room-Wolf Blitz	Lou Dobbs Tonight			Campbell Brown: No Bias	Larry King Live (N)		Cooper 360
	54	54	54	GOLF	Golf Central	Top 10	Golf Central	What's-Bag?	The Golf Fix	Haney Project	Haney Project	Lessons
	52	52	52	RSE	Hockeycentral (HDTV) (Live)			Jays	MLB Baseball	Toronto Blue Jays at Minnesota Twins (HDTV) (Live)		
	55	55	55	SCOR	Hockey Talk	Game On	RaceNight		(10:15) WWE Monday Night Raw	SuperCars	SuperCars	Auctions
sports	45	45	45	SPD	Unique Whips	Pimp My Ride	Pass Time	This Week in NASCAR				
	53	53	53	TSN	Off the Record	SportsCentre	NBA Basketball	Toronto Raptors at Washington Wizards (HDTV) (Live)			SportsCentre	
	43	43	43	FAM	Sonny Chance	Sonny Chance	Sonny Chance	Camp Rock (2008, Musical Comedy)			Wizards-Place	Life Derek
	44	44	44	TOON	Ben 10	Johnny Test	Totally Spies	Total Drama	6TEEN	Futurama	Punch	Robot Chicken
	26	26	26	TREE	Wonder Pets	Max & Ruby	Max & Ruby	Night Grdn	Max & Ruby	Franklin	Little Bear	Comfy Couch
	27	27	27	YTV	Drake & Josh	iCarly	Karaoke Star Junior (N)	Malcolm-Mid.	Futurama	League-Evil	Zixx Level	Falcon Beach
	16	16	16	A&E	Cold Case Files	CSI: Miami (HDTV)	Notre People	Intervention (HDTV)	Intervention (HDTV)	Intervention 'Tom'		Paranormal
	70	70	70	APTN	News (N)				Tam	Pachamama	Kabloonak *** (1994, Drama)	
	50	50	50	BET	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Top 10 Countdown			Be Cool *** (2005, Comedy) John Travolta, Uma Thurman. Premiere.			
	37	37	37	BRVO	Street Legal	Ballet Girls Ballet	Karaoke Star Junior	Home Improve.	Home Improve.	Strictly Bolshoi	Moscow's Bolshoi Ballet.	
family	25	25	25	CMT	Karaoke Star Junior		Air Force	Just for Laughs	Cops Uncut	Corner Gas	Reba	Hope & Faith
	49	49	49	COM	Laughs	Comedy Now	World's Wildest Police Videos	MythBusters	For Rent	Income Prop.	The Simpsons	B. Sagnet: Right
	153	153	153	COURT	W-IVE		Daily Planet (N)	House Hunters	Property Virgin	My First Place	Legal Briefs	Police Videos
	38	38	38	DISC	Canada's Worst Handyman		NCS 'Bury Your Dead'	House Hunters	Property Virgin	My First Place	Dirty Jobs	Detonator
	48	48	48	HGTV	Holmes on Homes		The O.C.	House Hunters	Property Virgin	My First Place	Property Virgin	House Hunters
	46	46	46	HIST	The Last Dawn		NCIS 'Bury Your Dead'	House Hunters	Property Virgin	My First Place	The Last Dawn	NCIS
	17	17	17	MM	Shot at Love-Tila Tequila		The O.C.	House Hunters	Property Virgin	My First Place	Shot at Love-Tila Tequila	MuchNews
	19	19	19	MMM	mtmtp10.ca		The Daily Fix	House Hunters	Property Virgin	My First Place	Don't Forget the Lyrics!	Entourage
	201	201	201	M1	Sanctuary	Tracey Ullman	Tracey Ullman	Tracey Ullman	Tracey Ullman	Tracey Ullman	Tracey Ullman	The Line
	48	48	48	OLN	American Gladiators	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter
cable variety	51	51	51	PEACH	Seinfeld	Friends	House-Payne	House-Payne	House-Payne	House-Payne	Mantracker	
	206	206	206	PDX	(6) The Frisco Kid		Ararat *** (2002, Historical Drama) David Alpay.				Tommy *** (1975, Musical)	
	67	67	67	RDI	Le Téléjournal	RDI en direct	24 Heures	24 Heures en 60 minutes	Intimidation.	Le Téléjournal	24 Heures	RDI en direct
	39	39	39	SHOW	Wife Swap (HDTV)		The Outer Limits	Cashing In	Kink in Hair	Kenny-Spenny	Kenny-Spenny	Name Is Earl
	40	40	40	SLICE	The Mom Show		Skin Deep	Til Debt-Part	Wedding SOS	Wedding SOS	Wedding SOS	Swan
	47	47	47	SPACE	Stargate SG-1		Star Trek: Voyager	Star Trek: Voyager	Star Trek: Voyager	Star Trek: Voyager	Star Trek: Voyager	Sarah Connor
	14	14	14	SPIKE	CSI: NY (HDTV)		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	Ultimate Fighting Championship 70: Nations Collide				
	57	57	57	98	etalk	Hollywood	The Ellen DeGeneres Show (N)	TMZ (N)	etalk	Paris Hilton's British Friend	Table for 12	Jon & Kate
	21	21	21	TLC	What Not to Wear		Little People	Little People	Little People	Little People	Table for 12	Jon & Kate
	56	56	56	34	TROP	What Happen?	Vanity Insanity	Reality	Reality	E News	Ground Up	Smarter

critics'corner

Corner Gas

Who'd have thought that a little sitcom set in a tiny Saskatchewan town would become a hit on both sides of the border? Alas, though, the adventures of Brent (Brent Butt) and his friends and relations in *Dog River* are coming to an end. But we expect they'll live on forever in reruns. Tara Spencer-Naim, Fred Ewanick, Nancy Robertson, Eric Peterson, Gabrielle Miller, Lorne Cardinal and Janet Wright also star in the series finale. 10:31 PM on CJCH, ASN



CBC Winnipeg Comedy Festival

From diapers to "Dad, can I borrow the car?" parenthood isn't just a job; it's an adventure. And you might as well take the laughs where they come. "Are You Kidding" is a half-hour devoted to the lighter side of raising children hosted by Gerry Dee, a new dad himself. Comedians Ali Rizvi, Al Rae and Mrs. Hughes perform. 9:30 PM on CBC

Tracey Ullman's State of the Union

As the versatile actress launches a second season, former U.S. first lady Laura Bush coordinates a garage sale at the ranch in Crawford, Texas; Indian pharmacist Padma Perkes gives her nephew a crash course in America; Celine Dion visits New Orleans; and liberal blogger Arianna Huffington lobbies to become the new U.S. ambassador to Greece. Peter Strauss narrates. 10 PM on M1

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- Britney Spears - If U Seek Amy
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- Soulja Boy Ft Sammie - Kiss Me Thru The Phone
- Flo Rida - Right Round
- Black Eyed Peas - Boom Boom Pow

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Parks and Recreation's Chris Pratt, who got engaged to actress Anna Faris late last year, knew she was The One immediately. "I knew I wanted to marry her pretty soon (after I met her.)" he told People magazine. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Celebrity Buzz

Angie rages over Brad's co-star?

PEOPLE Angelina Jolie is jealous of Natalie Portman, femalefirst.co.uk reports. The Changeling star reportedly flew into a rage with partner Brad Pitt after learning the Closer actress had personally asked for him to play her older lover in a new movie.

"Angelina had a massive fit and was shouting her head off. She accused Brad of flirting with Natalie," the website reports a source as saying.



"Angelina can't help but feel threatened. Brad knows how jealous she gets but won't stop saying how gorgeous and intelligent Natalie is. He keeps saying she is 'cute as a button.'"

The website adds that Jolie is particularly worried because she and Pitt started their relationship after meeting on the set of Mr. and Mrs. Smith in 2005 while he was still married to Jennifer Aniston, and she fears a case of history repeating itself.

The source added: "An-

gelina worries about karma. It's eating her up and we're sure the cause of a lot of the rows is her not quite trusting Brad."

The couple has been dogged by rumours their relationship is in trouble in recent weeks. It was recently reported Pitt had pleaded with his girlfriend to attend couples' counselling in a bid to save their relationship.

Jolie is said to have agreed, but only after seeking the advice of her ex-husband Billy Bob Thornton.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Lindsay in breakup downward spiral?

RELATIONSHIPS With her relationship with Samantha Ronson over and her personal life in freefall, Lindsay Lohan needs all the friends she can get. Unfortunately, they're all talking to the press instead.

"Lindsay needs to get psychiatric help. Her friends are really sad for her, but she's out of control, and now she's all alone," a source tells bangshowbiz.com.

Lohan, meanwhile, celebrated the Easter holiday by hurling eggs at photographers

that wouldn't leave her alone outside her Hollywood Hills home, according to Contact Music.

METRO WORLD NEWS



Woody, airport zombie hunter?

PEOPLE Woody Harrelson had a recent clash with a photographer in New York, but he's got a simple explanation: Harrelson thought he was being attacked by a zombie.

"I wrapped a movie called Zombieland, in which I was constantly under assault by zombies, then flew to New York, still very much in character," the actor said in a statement, according to People magazine. "With my daughter at the airport, I was startled by a paparazzo, who I quite understandably mistook for a zombie."

METRO WORLD NEWS



The Boss no homewrecker

RUMOUR Ann Kelly, the New Jersey woman accused by her husband of having an affair with Bruce Springsteen, says there is no truth to the claim.

"My client absolutely denies having an affair with Bruce Springsteen," Noel Tonneman, Kelly's lawyer, says, according to Hollyscoop. "These are baseless allegations of a jealous man. And that's all there is to it."

Tonneman says Kelly, who filed a domestic violence complaint against her husband on March 3, "Cannot return to her home because of the news media."

METRO WORLD NEWS



Zac afraid of parenthood

PEOPLE Zac Efron is "frightened" of having children, femalefirst.co.uk reports. The 17 Again actor — who is dating his High School Musical co-star Vanessa Hudgens — admits he is not ready to start a family because he is too selfish.

"The very idea of kids is frightening to me. Maybe it's overexposure at a young age to a lot of kids. Right now I think I'm honestly, deep down, too selfish of a person. So I don't have that longing yet but I think eventually maybe it will come," he said.

"I guess you take the

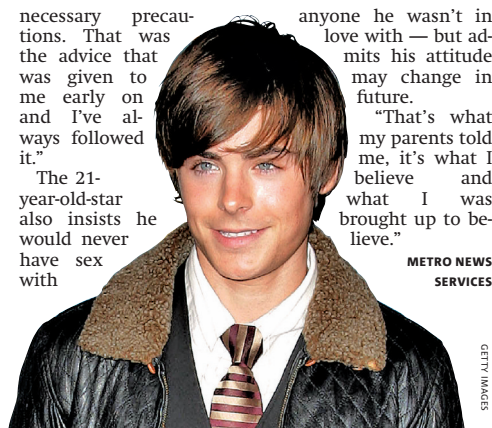
necessary precautions. That was the advice that was given to me early on and I've always followed it."

The 21-year-old star also insists he would never have sex with

anyone he wasn't in love with — but admits his attitude may change in future.

"That's what my parents told me, it's what I believe and what I was brought up to believe."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



GETTY IMAGES

Ryan's brutal new role

COMICS Ryan Reynolds — who plays assassin Deadpool in the upcoming X-Men Origins: Wolverine — only agreed to star in the film because it is so bloody, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

He said: "You're not going to see Kill Bill-style blood geysering up from severed heads! But I think you're going to see a kind of violence that's a little more brutal, rugged and ugly. Which is one of the things I liked about it."

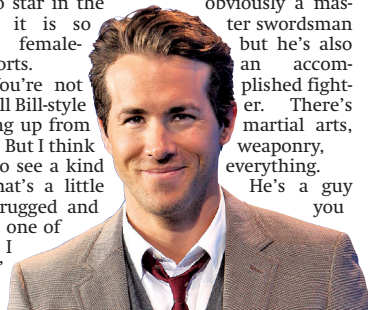
Reynolds

did all his own stunts in the movie, he says. "I trained for months to master the sword work, so he's obviously a master swordsman but he's also an accomplished fighter. There's martial arts, weaponry, everything. He's a guy you

don't want to mess with. "This character is like a surgeon. I've got to be so good with these swords that I put people's jaws on the floor."

Reynolds, a huge fan of the comic his character is based upon, told Total Film magazine: "When I was younger, I found one that I was actually mentioned in. Deadpool said that he looks a lot like a Shar-Pei crossed with Ryan Reynolds. I thought that was just the coolest thing that had ever happened."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Scarlett explains weight loss

PEOPLE Scarlett Johansson has laughed off reports she is on a crash-diet to keep up with slimmer Hollywood stars, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

Johansson stunned fans in recent months after showing off a more streamlined figure.

Her weight loss prompted tabloid speculation the 24-year-old had embarked upon a strict diet and fitness regime after fearing she would lose out on acting

roles to thinner stars.

But Johansson is adamant her new figure is the result of shaping up in preparation for her role as Black Widow in the forthcoming Iron Man sequel.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Oprah tangled in scam?

INVESTIGATION Oprah Winfrey has called in the Federal Bureau of Investigation to look into a \$1-million US scam allegedly sponsored by her talk show, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

Winfrey's camp was alerted to the issue by fans complaining about an email they had re-

ceived, claiming they had been electronically selected to compete in an Oprah Millionaire Contest Show. Con artists prompted recipients to fill out a questionnaire and send money for travel arrangements and tickets to the show.

Officials from The Oprah Winfrey Show reported the scam to the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center, and both offices have posted a warning to consumers on their websites, reports the New York Post.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



John and Demi, BFFs

TWITTER John Mayer has moved on to a different girl: Demi Lovato, us-magazine.com reports. No, they're not dating: They've become BFFs via Twitter.

The 16-year-old initiated things by saying "hi." Mayer, 31, replied last week by telling her that her tune La La Land is

"sophisticated."

"You're going to make lots of records, I can tell," he wrote. "Write one song at a time, never apologize for any of them, ever. From Wonderland to Trio stuff, they're all my kids."

Amazed, she replied, "Holy crap. Thank you. You're so awesome. That is quite possibly the best compliment I've received in this business."

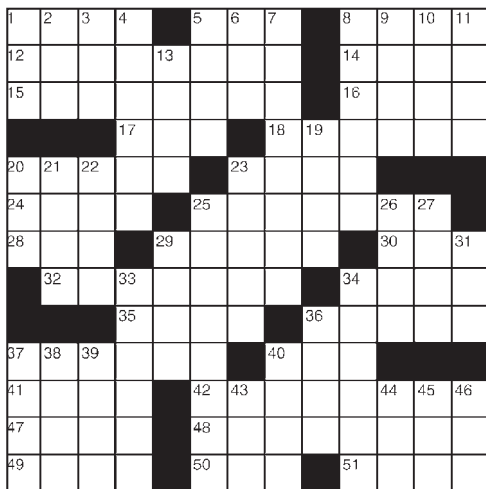
... If that's not inspiration, then I don't know what is! You're incredible."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



For more delicious Metro recipes, visit: metronews.ca/food

Take Five



Crossword across

- 1 Hawaiian island
5 Bro or sis
8 Eatery
12 Baldness
14 Operatic solo
15 Emergency care
16 Dissolve
17 Smithfield product
18 Shimmers
20 Burnett or Channing
23 Cherished
24 One
25 Ariel is one
28 Dowel
29 Star
30 Police officer
32 Ambushed
34 Kathie Lee's "Today" co-host
35 Congers
36 Church council
37 Marital felony
40 Cry loudly
41 Hebrew month
42 "The Fly" tagline, in part
47 Booth payment
48 Without equitability
49 Dispatch
50 "Gosh!"
51 Take out of the text

Crossword down

- 1 Lumbox
2 Boxing legend
3 Perp. to vert.
4 Result
5 Con game
6 XV divided by V
7 Harassed
8 Photog's need
9 Neighborhood
10 Photog's need
11 Chows down
13 List-ending abbr.
19 Gentle as a —
20 Half pint
21 From the beginning
22 Latvia's capital
23 Sandwich shops
25 Fruit tree pest
26 PC picture
27 Extinct bird
29 Skelton's
Kadiddlehopper
31 Cushion
33 Annual
34 Cross
36 Couch
37 Crazy
38 "American —"
39 Big bash
40 Secure
43 Compass dir.
44 Exist
45 Under the weather
46 Coloring agent

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:



8	6	1	9	3	4	7	5	2
9	2	4	5	8	7	1	3	6
5	3	7	1	6	2	4	9	8
6	1	5	4	7	3	2	8	9
7	4	3	2	9	8	6	1	5
2	8	9	6	5	1	3	7	4
1	9	8	7	4	6	5	2	3
4	5	2	3	1	9	8	6	7
3	7	6	8	2	5	9	4	1

Find today's answers + play more games at metronews.ca

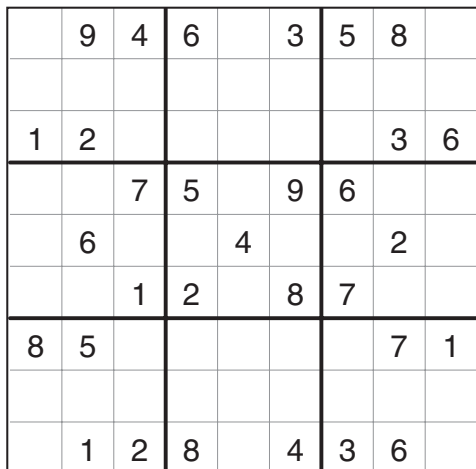
SUDOKU SOLVE TIME:

- Under 13 minGenius
13-17 minScholar
17-21 minSmart
21-25 minNot bad
25+ minKeep practising

Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.



Metro Recipe of the Day

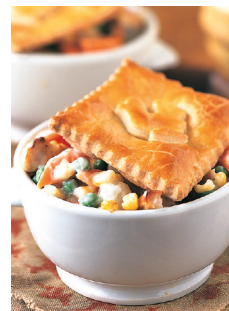
One-Crust Chicken Pot Pies

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 1/2 lbs (750 g) boneless, skinless chicken breasts
1/2 tsp (2 ml) salt
1 refrigerated piecrust
1 egg white, lightly beaten with 1 tsp (5 ml) water
2 medium carrots, peeled and thinly sliced
1 cup (250 ml) frozen corn kernels
1 cup (250 ml) frozen green peas
1 cup (250 ml) frozen small white onions
1 cup (250 ml) table cream
6 tbsp (90 ml) all-purpose flour
1 tbsp (15 ml) margarine
1/4 tsp (1 ml) black pepper

METHOD:

- Bring chicken breasts, 1/4 tsp (1 ml) salt, and enough water to cover to a simmer in large pot over medium-high heat. Reduce heat to low; gently poach chicken until juices run clear, 15 minutes. Transfer chicken to cutting board; cool and cut into bite-size pieces. Reserve 2 cups (500 ml) poaching liquid.
- Preheat oven to 425°F (220°C). Lightly coat baking sheet and six 1-cup (250-ml) ovenproof dishes with non-stick cooking spray.
- Dust work surface with flour. Unfold pie crust on surface and roll out. Cut 6 squares to fit on top of pies.
- Make 6 decorations and attach 1 cutout to each pastry square with egg white. Brush tops of decorated pastries with



egg white. Transfer to baking sheet and bake until golden brown, 12 minutes. Transfer to wire rack to cool.

5. Meanwhile, cook carrots in boiling water until tender, 5 minutes; drain. Rinse frozen vegetables with hot water; drain. Whisk cream and flour in small bowl. Melt margarine in medium pot over medium heat. Whisk in cream mixture, then reserved poaching liquid. Cook until sauce thickens and boils, 5 minutes. Stir in chicken, carrots, corn, peas, onions, black pepper and remaining salt. Cook until heated through, about 3 minutes; divide among dishes and bake until bubbling, 15 minutes. Top with pastry squares.

SERVES 4



Horoscopes

AVATAR VENUS

ARIES

MARCH 21-APRIL 20
People seem to be suffocating others with fear. A nice guy is too exhausted to call. Therapy becomes necessary for a teen's problem.

LIBRA

SEPT 23-OCT 23
Useless reminders won't bear fruit. Someone's efforts to help out are met with distrust. You'll fix a problem that occurred many miles away.

TAURUS

APRIL 21-MAY 21
A situation changes when someone refuses. A worker misses the point when you explain the rules. Don't give in to senseless demands.

SCORPIO

OCT 24-NOV 22
A dictator isn't ready to give up. A quick talker expands your career potential. False accusations get under your skin.

GEMINI

MAY 22-JUNE 21
An embarrassing question is too stupid to ask. Persuade other people that miracles will occur. You won't be held back by anything.

SAGITTARIUS

NOV 23-DEC 21
A refusal to help out is punished. A professional brings good luck with legal affairs. Don't be afraid to try something new.

CANCER

JUNE 22-JULY 22
You'll have a great chance to be clear-sighted. A discussion is balanced by distant people. Education choices will reverberate for years.

CAPRICORN

DEC 22-JAN 20
Pick up the pieces of a broken promise. Unexpected visitors are coming. Expect good luck with a frivolous romantic.

LEO

JULY 23-AUG 23
A cut-throat businessman has a profitable day. Something you saw affects your mood all day. You'll get support during a draining time.

AQUARIUS

JAN 21-FEB 18
You'll have some free time. Changes will make you gasp with joy. A remarkable friend influences a lonely walker.

VIRGO

AUG 24-SEPT 22
Feign enthusiasm until you really feel it. A brave approach to bullying won't work. Much attention is focused on a conflict.

PISCES

FEB 19-MARCH 20
Typical oddball behaviour is forbidden. Don't ruin your reputation by being hypocritical. Someone demands to know that you're concerned.

WORDY GURDY®

BY TRICKY RICKY KANE
Every answer is a rhyming pair of words (like FAT CAT and DOUR F TROUBLE), and they will fit in the letter squares. The number after the definition tells you how many syllables in each word.

- Army insects do a conga (1)
- Erie or Huron serpent (1)
- "Idol" host. Seuerest, meet Couch Billick (2)
- Gently prod a Supreme Court member (1)
- President Eisenhower's beacons (1)
- Rating order registration (2)
- Meriting protecting for posterity (3)

ANSWERS: 1. ARMADILLOS 2. WATERMOCN 3. BOB HOPE 4. SUPREMACY 5. DODGEBALL 6. LINDSEY 7. DORSEY 8. PRAISE

This day in history

- APRIL 13, 1111: Henry V is crowned Holy Roman Emperor.
APRIL 13, 1796: The first elephant ever seen in the United States arrives from India.
APRIL 13, 1829: The British Parliament grants freedom of religion to Roman Catholics.
APRIL 13, 1849: Hungary becomes a republic.
APRIL 13, 1870: Metropolitan Museum of Art founded.
APRIL 13, 1902: James C. Penney opens his first store in Kemmerer, Wyoming.
APRIL 13, 1997: Tiger Woods becomes the youngest golfer to win golf's Masters Tournament.

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